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CIA employees to Tafoya case

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The Larimer County District Attorney's office this week added the names of two Central Intelligence Agency employees to the list of prosecution witnesses in the attempted murder and conspiracy case against Eugene A. Tafoya.

Fred E. Lott and Daniel Godar, both from CIA offices in Washington, D.C., bring the number of CIA personnel listed on the prosecution's witness list to four. Jerry Johnson, with the CIA's Office of the General Council in Washington, D.C., and George L. Marling, a Washington-based CIA employee, were previously submitted as prosecution witnesses.

Tafoya has claimed he was working for the CIA when he shot Faisal

Zagallai, a former Colorado State University Libyan student, at his Fort Collins home. Tafoya, a former Green Beret, said he was acting in self-defense.

Zagallai, an outspoken critic of Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khadafy, was shot twice in the head Oct. 14, 1980, in what local police and prosecutors have called an attempted political assassination. Zagallai survived the attack but was left blind in one eye.

Tafoya, 47, of Truth or Consequences, N.M., is being held in Larimer County Jail on \$500,000 bond awaiting trial on charges of attempted first-degree murder in the shooting.

The defendant said during a press conference last month that he was in

Fort Collins last October to deliver a message to Zagallai for the CIA. He claimed the message was for Zagallai to stop his activities in support of the Palestine Liberation Organization — specifically, to stop making broadcasts that the American government thought were detrimental to peace in the Middle East.

Tafoya did not elaborate on the alleged broadcasts made by Zagallai. Zagallai, through friends at Colorado State University, has denied making any broadcasts.

Tafoya said he applied for a job with the CIA in May 1976, shortly after he retired from the Green Berets, and that he was hired three years ago by a man who claimed to be a CIA agent.

CIA officials in Washington have told *Coloradoan* reporters that they can neither nor confirm nor deny that Tafoya has worked or is working for the intelligence agency.

Tafoya maintains he continued spying for the CIA in Libya after he was recruited by former CIA agent Edwin P. Wilson to go to that country to help train Libyan military personnel.

Federal officials think Wilson entered into an agreement with Khadafy in 1976 to supply weapons to the Libyan leader for terrorist activities and to set up training schools for terrorists in that country.

Federal investigators have said they think Wilson recruited former and present Green Berets, as well as former and present CIA personnel, to help train the terrorists.

Wilson and another former CIA agent, Frank Terpil, were indicted in April 1980 by a Washington grand jury on charges of illegally exporting high explosives and military

ment says the pair attempted to hire someone to assassinate a senior member of the ruling Libyan Revolutionary Council who defected to Egypt in 1975 after allegedly leading an unsuccessful plot to overthrow Khadafy.

Local prosecutors attempted to introduce evidence linking Wilson to Tafoya and the shooting of Zagallai at a July hearing on the reduction of Tafoya's bond. District Judge J. Robert Miller, however, upheld defense attorney Walter Gerash's objection to the evidence.

Among the more than 80 names appearing on the local prosecution's witness list in the Tafoya case are those of two former Wilson associates — former Green Beret Luke Thompson and former CIA analyst Kevin Mulcahy.

Thompson has said in interviews that he and 10 other Army Special Forces personnel he recruited went to Libya in 1977 to train Libyans in terrorist techniques. Thompson, a Green Beret master sergeant stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., in 1977, said he was recruited for the operation by Wilson, associate Patry Loomis, who was a CIA agent at the time.

Thompson has said that he and the other Green Berets went to Libya with the Army's knowledge and endorsement and that they believed they were working for the CIA.

Mulcahy, who has said he once thought Wilson's operation was sanctioned by the CIA, was recruited by Wilson in 1976 to head a Washington-based corporation that was involved in exporting explosives and military hardware to Libya.